

CLAIMS:

1. Method for determining the amplitude of a signal having a first signal level and a second signal level, the method comprising the steps of:
 - removing any DC component from the signal so as to produce an intermediate signal having an average level equal to a reference level,
 - 5 - shifting the intermediate signal by a shift amount so as to produce a shifted signal having a first signal level equal to the reference level, and
 - providing said shift amount as an indication of the amplitude of the signal.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the shifted signal and the reference
10 level determines the shift amount.
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the shift amount is continuously determined.
- 15 4. Device for determining the amplitude of a signal having a first signal level and a second signal level, the device comprising:
 - a decoupling circuit for removing any DC component from the signal so as to produce an intermediate signal having an average level equal to a reference level,
 - a shift circuit for shifting the intermediate signal by a shift amount so as to
20 produce a shifted signal having a first signal level equal to the reference level, and
 - an output terminal for providing said shift amount as an indication of the amplitude of the signal.
5. Device according to claim 4, wherein the shift circuit is coupled to an output
25 of a differential amplifier which is coupled to receive the reference level and a signal, which is indicative for the power of the shifted signal.
6. Device according to claim 5, wherein a signal power determination circuit is coupled between the shift circuit and the differential amplifier.

7. Device according to claim 4, 5 or 6, wherein the reference level is equal to a supply voltage.